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OXC 1689 /
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22 JUN 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Development Branch, DPD
SUBJECT: Night Aerial Refueling for OXCART

1. During the approximate four month period from 20 October to 20 February, total darkness or twilight exists throughout the polar area north of latitude 50-00 North. Inasmuch as OXCART operational missions will be air refueled in the Arctic and Polar regions, a night aerial refueling capability for the A-12 vehicle is considered essential.

2. Hardware-wise, illumination of the A-12 refueling receptacle may be all that is required. Possibly, the reference lights on the KC-135 tanker will require repositioning. In addition, night refueling operations will demand a highly reliable and effective rendezvous system.

3. It is requested that you take action to provide for a night aerial refueling capability for OXCART.

25X1A

Major USAF

Acting Chief, Special Projects Branch

cc: AC/DPD
DPD/EO
DPD/SA/TAS
DPD/DB

DPD/SPB
DPD/RI

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DPD/SPB [REDACTED] ph (22 June 61)

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